

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-11, 13, 15 and 16. Claims 1, 10 and 13 are independent.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 4-11, 13, 15, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by McGuffin (U.S. Patent No. 4,217,586). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that the teachings of McGuffin as relied upon by the Examiner are contained in the prior art section of the current application. The Applicant discloses a conventional approach to measuring an active signal of a data transmission, shifting the input and reference signals, multiplying the signals, and storing the result over the entire “width” of the conventional acquisition search window. See page 5. The Applicant further discloses the conventional acquisition search window as having a substantially wider window requiring more computation, and data storage. See page 6. Similarly, McGuffin discloses an acquisition search somewhat similar to the conventional acquisition search described above. During a trial interval if a preliminary detection for a signal has occurred, no change is made to the tap weights, which control device switch circuit 66, and the acquisition search has been successful. Alternatively, if no detection is reported, then the control circuits transfer a command signal to switch 66 causing a new tap of delay line 62 to connect with the input of delay line 64. Ultimately, the acquisition sequence continues until either the messages are received or until the acquisition attempt is terminated. See Col. 11, lines 21-33.

Applicants submit that nowhere does McGuffin disclose or suggest a dynamic acquisition search window having a time width which increases in proportion to a time duration of the

inactive period. The teachings of McGuffin are based on the prior art and conventional teachings highlighted in the background information contained in the specification of the current application.

The Examiner has relied upon Figs. 3 and 6 as a disclosure for the window of acquisition dynamically changing the acquisition search window. The Applicants disagree with this alleged interpretation of McGuffin.

Fig. 3 of McGuffin discloses a switch circuit 66, connected to corresponding tapped delay lines 62 and 64. The tapped delay line 64 assists the acquisition process of detecting a received signal by providing a timing delay signal for comparing the local PN (Pseud Noise) signal delay to the delay of the tapped delay line. If the local PN signal delay error is less than the total delay of tapped delay line 64 then acquisition may occur. See Col. 9, lines 43-49. The selector switch 66 co-operates with the tapped delay lines to synchronize the received PN code with the local PN code. See Col 8, lines 62-66. Applicants submit that Fig. 3 of McGuffin provides no disclosure for a dynamic acquisition search window having a time width which increases in proportion to a time duration of the inactive period as recited in claim 1.

Fig. 6 of McGuffin discloses a logic diagram showing the reoccurring process of signal acquisition. The search process includes a trial interval, a detection unit weighing a detection signal against a threshold power level, and a determination of either a successful acquisition or a decision to change switch circuit 66 to another position. See Fig 6. The only changing that occurs in this process is an increase in the magnitude of adaptive tap widths corresponding to local code delays. See lines 65-67 of Col. 9, and 1-5 of Col. 10. Applicants submit that Nowhere does the disclosure of Fig. 6 provide adequate teachings for a dynamic acquisition

search window having a time width which increases in proportion to a time duration of the inactive period as recited in claim 1.

Applicants further submit that the delay window first described in Col. 8, line 29 of McGuffin, was introduced figuratively simply to represent a longer tapped delay line and was not intended to be interpreted as a search window of acquisition that increases in proportion to a time duration of an inactive period. See Col. 8, lines 25-30. The acquisition of a signal taught by McGuffin is limited to the delay of the tapped delay line, and has no dynamic process of acquisition. Furthermore, the delay window being limited to the delay of the tapped delay line permits synchronization for comparing delay errors of local and received signals, **and provides no suggestion that an inactive period of a transmitted signal be taken into consideration when varying the delay period.**

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 and those claims dependent thereon, are allowable over the prior art. Withdrawal of the rejection is kindly requested.

Claims 10 and 13 contains somewhat similar claim language to claim 1. Accordingly, for at least reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1, Applicants submit that claims 10 and 13, and those claims dependent thereon, are allowable over the prior art. Withdrawal of the rejection is kindly requested.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-16 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416 at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

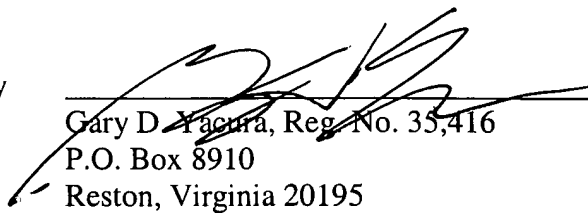
In the event this Response does not place the present application in condition for allowance, applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 to schedule a personal interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416
P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

GDY/KE/cng